

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

### Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A preparation to remove tattoos, ~~characterized in that it includes comprising:~~  
an aqueous solution of an alkali chloride with a pH value less than 7, and further an oil, characterized in that wherein the concentration of the alkali chloride in the aqueous solution is in the range of 10-20 %-weight by weight.
2. (Currently Amended) Preparation The preparation as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the alkali chloride is sodium chloride.
3. (Currently Amended) Preparation The preparation as claimed in either of claims 1 and 2, ~~characterized in that~~claim 1, wherein the pH of the solution is less than 4.0, preferably less than 3.4.
4. (Currently Amended) Preparation The preparation as claimed in one of claims 1 through 3, ~~characterized in that~~claim 1, wherein the pH value of the solution is larger than 1.5, preferably larger than 1.8.
5. (Currently Amended) Preparation The preparation as claimed in claim 1 through

5, characterized in that it wherein the preparation contains a weak acid with an acid constant  $10^{-2}$  mol/ltr  $> K_1 > 10^{-5}$  mol/ltr, preferably a fruit acid.

6. (Currently Amended) Preparation The preparation as claimed in ~~one of claims 1 through 5, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein the preparation contains a citrus fruit juice, preferably pineapple juice.

7. (Currently Amended) Preparation The preparation as claimed in ~~one of claims 1 through 6, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein the concentration of the alkali chloride in the aqueous solution is within the range of 10 - 20 and preferably 12 - 16.5 % weight by weight.

8. (Currently Amended) Preparation The preparation as claimed in ~~one of claims 1 through 7, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein the preparation ~~it~~ additionally contains additionally an oil, preferably coconut oil, or coconut milk.

9. (Currently Amended) Preparation The preparation as claimed in claim 8, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the aqueous, acid solution and the oil are mixed in a ratio of 3/1 to 1/1, preferably being two parts water to one part oil.

10. (Currently Amended) Preparation The preparation as claimed in claim 9, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the aqueous, acid solution is citrus fruit juice and the oil is coconut milk.

11. (Currently Amended) Preparation~~The preparation as claimed in one of claims 1 through 10, characterized in that it~~claim 1, wherein the preparation additionally contains starch, preferably in the form of potato juice.

12. (Currently Amended) Preparation~~The preparation as claimed in one of claims 1 through 11, characterized in that it~~claim 1, wherein the preparation contains one or several additives, preferably preservatives, oxidizers, whitening agents or buffers.

13. (Currently Amended) Preparation~~The preparation as claimed in one of claims 1 through 12, characterized in that it~~claim 1, wherein the preparation is formulated in a form applicable to the skin, preferably as a cream, an oil, a foam, a gel, an emulsion, a solution or a patch.

14. (Currently Amended) A method of preparing a tattoo-removing preparation  
~~Using~~using an aqueous solution of an alkali chloride having a pH value less than 7.0 ~~with a further~~and an oil ingredient to prepare ~~at~~the tattoo-removing preparation.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Currently Amended) A method of tattoo removal comprising the steps of:  
~~preparing a Tattoo-removing~~tattoo-removing preparation ~~characterized in that~~  
~~wherein the preparation as claimed in one of claims 1 through 13~~includes an  
aqueous solution of an alkali chloride with a pH value less than 7 and an oil, and  
~~is deposited~~depositing the preparation on a tattooed skin segment and in~~such~~

that skin penetration by the preparation is enhanced.

17. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~The method as claimed in claim 16, characterized in that wherein enhancement of preparation penetration is implemented by ~~[skin]~~ massaging/kneading the tattooed skin segment and in that the preparation is propagated by diffusion toward ~~thea~~ dye-bearing skin layer.

18. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~The method as claimed in claim 16, characterized in that wherein the preparation is moved mechanically toward ~~thea~~ sub-cutaneous dye to be removed.

19. (Currently Amended) An implement to carry out ~~thea~~ method ~~defined in one of claims 16 through 18,~~  
~~characterized in that of tattoo removal, wherein~~ a tool (3) is used which introduces ~~thea~~ preparation ~~claimed in one of claims 1 through 13~~for removing tatoos into ~~thea~~ dyed skin layer, in that ~~this~~the tool is fitted with a set of needles (30) and a support (20; 41) for ~~same~~the set of needles, in that the needles (30) are spaced apart from, and end-wise connected to, one another, in that the interconnected needles are affixed to the support (20; 41) and in that such a tool (3) is connected to a drive component in a manner that said tool can be exchanged with another tool (3).

20. (Currently Amended) ~~Implement~~The implement as claimed in claim 19, characterized in that wherein the drive component comprises a drive unit (5) and an elongated transmission element (10, 41), in that said transmission element (10; 41)

is connected end-wise to the drive unit and in that the tool (3) is affixed in an exchangeable manner to the other end of said transmission element.

21. (Currently Amended) ~~Implement~~The implement as claimed in claim 20, characterized in thatwherein the transmission element (10; 41) is a connecting ~~rod~~rod (10), in that the support for the needles (30) comprises a bolt (20) and in that said bolt is connected for instance by a bush (19) to one end of the connecting rod (10).